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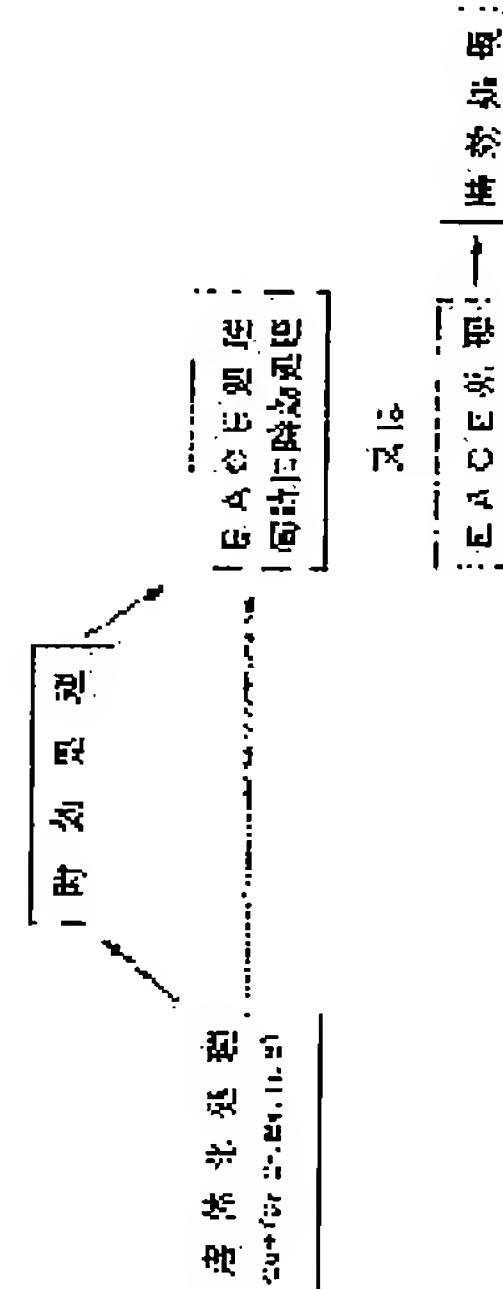
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## (54) COPPER ALLOY

## (57) Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide a copper alloy which is suitable for electrode materials for welding, materials for connectors of electrically-powered cars, etc., and is excellent in mechanical strength and thermal and electrical characteristics.

**SOLUTION:** An element, such as Cr, is sufficiently solutionized to parent metal (Cu) at an elevated temperature and is then rapidly cooled to obtain material of a supersaturated state. A strain is applied to this material and further, the material is subjected to aging treatment at a low temperature simultaneously with the impartation of the strain or after the strain is imparted thereto. The copper alloy having the characteristics desirable as the electrode material, for example, hardness of  $\geq 30$  (HRB), electrical conductivity of  $\geq 85$  (IACS%) and thermal conductivity of  $\geq 350$  (W/(m·K)) is obtained.



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